THE EIGHTH DAY.

5th March 1912.

SUBJECTS.

70. The necessity of appointing Mahomedan representatives in the State to look after the interests of their community, religious, social and material.—

(1) Head men in the State should be appointed to look after the religio-social interests of the community in place of the old Kazis.

(2) Mahomedans should be appointed to high offices in the State from among the Mahomedans in or outside Travancore.

The Assembly met again at 11 A. M. on Tuesday, the 5th March 1912.

Mr. Shaik Mahomed Hamidani Tangal (Member, Nominated) said that the Mahomedan community stood very low in point of social, moral and material condition. The regeneration of the community was not possible, if the Government did not come forward in the matter and authorize head men or Kazis to look after the religio-social interests of the community. The Government had granted this privilege to the Kazis formerly, but subsequently it was withdrawn. Without an authority from the Government, the orphans and those without guardians among the community could not be taken care of by the Kazis. He also said that, if the Mahomedans that were qualified were appointed to the high offices in the State, they would be of help to the Government in ascertaining the needs of the community, and in obtainiug advice in all matters concerning them. If competent Mahomedans were not available in the State, the Member suggested that they should be got from elsewhere.

Among applicants of equal qualification, the Mahomedans should be given preference and appointed to higher employments in the service.

Mr. Kochu Hassan Kunju (Member, Nominated) said that, considering the backward condition of the Mahomedans, it was desirable that, as a means of encouragement, the Government should prefer Mahomedans for appointments, to other applicants of equal qualifications. He also prayed that their services should be utilized, wherever possible, in the higher grades of appointments.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

71. The applications of Ealavas for appointments in the Revenue and Judicial Departments should be given preference to those from the members of other communities.

Mr. C. K. Krishna Panickar (Member, Nominated) said that there were many Ealavas who were qualified for appointments in the lower grades of the service; but, in spite of the Government order declaring that Ealavas should be appointed in the service, only very few had been entertained. The reasons alleged for not employing them were (1) that they were a special class and (2) that they had not passed the hig her examinations. The Member observed, with regret, that in some cases members of the other communities were prefe rred, though there were Ealava applicants of equal qualifications. He prayed that, in the matter of the appointment of clerks and

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SUBJECTS.

peons in the Revenue, Judicial and other departments, the services of Ealavas should be more largely utilized.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

Preference should be given in the matter of appointments in the Government Service to candidates from communities educationally backward, such as the Ealavas.

Mr. Kumaran Asan (Member, Nominated) stated that the Ealava community were very backward in education; and that it would take a long time for them to appreciate the advantages of higher education and be qualified for higher appointments in the Government service. As matters stood at present, the Ealavas were practically excluded from the Government service, though it was open to them nominally. The practice in British India, with regard to the communities educationally backward, was that, in the mattter of appointments, they were not only preferred in cases where the qualifications of the applicants were found to be equal, but the rule requiring educational qualifications of a higher standard was not strictly enforced in their case. The Member therefore prayed that similar concessions might be granted to them in this State. He also pointed out that the branches of the State service, where high educational qualifications were not absolutely necessary, such as the Police, the Excise and the Registration Departments, might be thrown open to them.

Dewan.—Are not your men admitted in the Police Department now? In the Registration Department there are several clerks and a Sub-Registrar, I believe?

Ealavas should be appointed more freely in the Public service.

Mr. Uttaman Krishnan (Member, Nominated) said that at present the entertainment of the Ealavas in the State service was very limited. The Member prayed that they should be more liberally employed in the various departments such as the Excise, the Police, &c.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

72. The Cardamom ryots should be given all the privileges of the Travancoreans.

Mr. P. M. Ramaswamy Raja (Member, Devicolam taluk) said that the ryots of the locality, though mostly natives of British India, possessed vested interests in the State. They had opened up large areas for the cultivation of tea, coffee and cardamom, and had thus become domiciled in the State. Their cultivation mostly depended on rain and supplemental agricultural works. During times of drought, their agriculture failed, but the tax had nevertheless to be paid. The Member prayed that they might be favoured with the same privileges as the Travancoreans, especially in the following matters;

(1) Remission of tax,
(2) Agricultural Loans, and
(3) Issue of free passes for the grazing of cattle.

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